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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP
INTELLIGENCE REPORT

COUNTRY USSR

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SUBJECT Industries in Chkalov ; Airfield in Chkalov

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SUPPLEMENT

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Chkalov (51°48'N, 55°10'E; formerly named Orenburg) is situated on the Ural river near the Caspian Sea. The town has about 250,000 inhabitants and is the administrative center of the district in which it is located.

1. The airplane factory Zaved 47 (factory 47) is located a few kilometers east of Chkalov, at the airfield. It appears to be new and is still being expanded; there are new hangars at the airfield and dwellings for workers are under construction. The plant consists of ten work halls for metal parts and three for wooden parts. Two thousand to three thousand workers are employed here. Production is estimated at five Il-2 planes daily, in addition to other planes, probably IAK's. The airfield is not only being used for testing newly-constructed planes, but also as a training center for the Soviet Air Force. The number of planes regularly stationed on the field is estimated at several hundred, among which are a few of German make (ME). Plant and airfield, especially the latter, are closely guarded by Russian troops.
2. The sister-plants Auto-Sapchas (phonetic spelling) and Kirova produce spare parts for a Russian car. Auto-Sapchas employs about 400 workers and produces radiators. Kirova employs about the same number of workers and produces pistons and connecting rods. These plants are not guarded by Russian troops.
3. A factory near the railroad station produces wheels and tracks for tanks, presumably T-34. The 400 workers include 80 German PW's. The plant is guarded by Russian troops.

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